

## COUNTRY NEWS LETTERS

### SOME INTERESTING HAPPENINGS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS.

#### News Items Gathered All Around the County and Elsewhere.

##### Buford Bridge Budget.

Buford Bridge, April 3.—Regardless of the war, the farmers around here are still living. They are now busy with their crops. Some have already planted corn and are about ready for their cotton to go in.

Again think of it! Some of these progressive farmers have gotten busy and constructed a new telephone line and almost every home from Buford Bridge to Ehrhardt will have a 'phone. What a convenience! We can talk to Ehrhardt over the local lines.

Mrs. A. L. Kirkland spent last Thursday in Bamberg.

Miss Ethel Houck, the teacher at Camp Hill school, was a pleasant visitor of Mr. and Mrs. John Rush last week-end.

Miss Myrtle Everette entertained a few of her friends last Saturday evening very pleasantly at the home of her sister, Mrs. G. V. Kearse.

Misses Norma Brabham and Emmie Lyons, of Olar, spent last week-end very pleasantly with Mrs. S. Breeland.

Miss Pearl Kearse has returned home after spending several weeks in Olar.

There seems to be a good many fish in the streams around here. Every few days some one is having a fish fry. "BOAGUS."

##### Branchville Breezes.

Branchville, March 31.—Miss Lipscomb spent the week-end with her sister at Aiken.

Miss Ruth Byrd has returned from spending some time with her sister, Mrs. E. J. Hutto, at Charleston.

Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Dukes and two sons, of Augusta, are spending a few days with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Dukes.

Bob Dodenhoff, of Greenville, spent several days last week with his brother, J. B. Dodenhoff.

E. L. Padgett and his mother, Mrs. D. W. Padgett, of Colleton county, were in town this week. Mr. Padgett is just back from the border.

Miss Virginia Rogers, of Bowman, spent the week-end with Miss Evelyn Bethea.

Mrs. W. H. Williams and Mrs. O. G. Rhoad spent part of this week with relatives in Bamberg.

Mrs. A. J. Allen is visiting relatives in Leesville.

##### Clear Pond Cullings.

Clear Pond, April 2.—Cotton planting is now the order of the day in our neighborhood.

We are certainly having beautiful weather now, and lots of folks are taking advantage of it visiting the pond.

We understand that Mr. G. W. Folk will again give his annual good Friday picnic. He has been giving this picnic for a number of years, and every one has a good time, and the last one is always better than the one before. So we will predict another good time this year.

Mr. J. R. Morris gave the young folks a pinder shelling Thursday night. There was quite a crowd present. Every one had a good time and all praised the good music rendered by the Folk orchestra.

Mr. Ansie Padgett was the guest of Mr. Leroy Gunnells, near Govan, Sunday.

Miss Kate Kornegay visited in Bamberg Saturday afternoon.

Mr. Leland Sandifer was the guest at Mr. J. R. Morris's Saturday night.

Mrs. Avis Steedly and Misses Pet and Dorris Folk were the guests at Mr. P. K. Hughes's Saturday afternoon.

Mr. George Steedly and Mr. John Stroud visited in the Springtown neighborhood Sunday.

Mrs. P. K. Hughes and Miss Meta Hughes were the guests at Mr. G. W. Folk's Sunday.

Messrs Bennie Padgett and Oscar Stant were the guests of Mr. Charlie Miley Sunday.

##### Ehrhardt Etchings.

Ehrhardt, April 2.—We are having good weather now and the farmers are busy planting and we don't think they could find a better time.

Mr. Wesley Fender and son were in town Saturday.

We are sorry to learn of the illness of Mrs. Clemmons Carter at the home of Mr. John Hiers, Jr. Hope she

will soon be out again.

Mr. E. F. Zeigler has purchased an automobile. He has at last decided to join the band.

Mr. B. B. Bishop was in town Saturday on business.

Mr. W. H. Folk and sons were here Saturday.

Mr. F. E. Copeland, a prosperous farmer and business man, of near here, was in town Saturday on business.

Rev. J. R. Smith preached his farewell sermon at Bethany Baptist church Sunday afternoon. We are very sorry to lose Mr. Smith, as he is both a good citizen and a friend to everybody. Hope the people will appreciate him at his next charge as we did here.

Mr. J. W. Fender was a pleasant visitor in town Saturday.

Mr. M. W. Rentz and children were in town Saturday.

The high price of Irish potatoes has almost induced some of the planters in this section to plant some for market. Wish them success.

Mr. George Kearse was in town Saturday.

On last Tuesday morning, March 28th, we were very sorry to learn of the sudden death of Mr. C. R. Clayton, a highly respected citizen of Three Mile township. Mr. Clayton had been in had health for some time, but seemed to be improving, and his death was a shock to his many friends. He was buried the day following his death at Mt. Pleasant Lutheran church. The services were conducted by the Masons, of which order he was a prominent and influential member. REX.

##### Colston Clippings.

Colston, April 2.—A large crowd attended the missionary services at Colston Branch Baptist church Sunday.

The Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Padgett were: Mr. and Mrs. George Bessinger and children, Messrs. George Fender and Leland Sandifer, and Miss Alma Fender.

Miss Nelle Clayton, of the Spring Branch section, spent Saturday night and Sunday at home.

Mr. Willie Best, of Ulmer, was a visitor in this section Saturday night and Sunday.

Miss Dora McMillan, of Bamberg, spent last week-end at home.

Messrs. Clyde Padgett, Antley and Rentz, and Misses Davis and Lancaster, of Orangeburg, were visitors in this section Sunday afternoon.

Messrs. Sandy Witt and Warren Strom, of Greenwood, were visitors in this section Saturday night and Sunday.

Miss Hattie Kirkland spent Saturday night with Miss Bessie Kirkland.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston Sandifer and family, of Denmark, spent Sunday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Kearse.

Mr. Gerald Kearse spent Saturday night at the home of Mr. Frank Kirkland.

The Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Folk were: Messrs. Gerald Kearse, Frank Kirkland, Jr., Eddie Walker and Sammie Clayton and Misses Evelyn and Bessie Kirkland, Reba Williams and Mary Clayton.

Mrs. Ogretta Beard, who has been spending some time with relatives in Schofield, returned home last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Laurie Copeland and little daughter spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Beard.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Kinard, of the Camp Hill section, visited at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isham Goodwin, Sunday.

Miss Nettie Clayton is spending some time with her aunt, Mrs. C. R. Clayton, of the Ehrhardt vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Beard of Schofield spent Sunday in this section.

Miss Minnie Kirkland and Mr. Johnnie Kirkland spent Saturday night with their sister, Mrs. J. A. Jennings.

Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Beard and family spent Sunday with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Kearse.

##### Oak Grove Greetings.

Oak Grove, April 3.—We have been having some beautiful weather for the past few days.

Mr. I. W. Rentz has returned from a visit to his son, Mr. J. L. Rentz, in Columbia.

Mr. and Mrs. George Kinard spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Copeland.

Mrs. A. K. Rentz spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Fender.

Rev. Realer preached a fine sermon last Sunday at Pleasant Hill.

Misses Pattie Miley and Grace Hoffman spent the week-end with Mrs. Rose Hoffman.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Bennett and

## TO DECLARE STATE OF WAR

### PRESIDENT URGES IMMEDIATE ACTION BY CONGRESS.

Germany Already Making War on United States, Says Chief Executive, to War Time Congress.

Washington, April 2.—President Wilson tonight urged congress, assembled in joint session, to declare a state of war existing between the United States and Germany. In a dispassionate but unmeasured denunciation of the course of the imperial German government, which he characterized as a challenge to all mankind and a warfare against all nations, the president declared that neutrality no longer was feasible or desirable where the peace of the world was involved; that armed neutrality had become ineffectual enough at best and was likely to produce what it was meant to prevent, and urged that congress accept the gage of battle with all the resources of the nation.

"I advise that the congress declare the recent course of the imperial German government to be in fact nothing less than war against the government and people of the United States," said the president; "that it formally accept the status of belligerent which has thus been thrust upon it and that it take steps not only to put the country in a more thorough state of defense, but also to exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring the government of the German empire to terms and end the war."

When the president had finished speaking resolutions to declare a state of war existing were introduced

son, Mr. Bobbie Bennett, and Miss Genie Ramsy, of Ehrhardt, visited Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Copeland recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt Rhoad spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Carter.

A good many folks attended the play at Hunter's Chapel.

Mrs. Joe Fender spent last Friday night with her sister, Mrs. Dan Rhoad.

Mr. Leroy Smith spent last Saturday and Sunday with his brother, Mr. D. P. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Copeland and little daughter, Lenora, dined last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Beard, of the Colston section.

Mr. M. W. Rentz has purchased a Maxwell car.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Clayton and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Clayton spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Clayton.

##### Briar Creek Bristlings.

Briar Creek, April 4.—Misses Clio and Sadie Richardson spent Saturday night and Sunday with Misses Annie May and Jessie Richardson.

Miss Clara O'Quinn and Mr. Hansford O'Quinn spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mrs. B. D. Donald.

Misses Bert and Adrine Goodwin and Messrs. Frank and G. Hugh Goodwin spent Saturday night and Sunday with Mrs. Mamie Steedly.

Misses Florrie Steedly and Johnnie Steedly spent Saturday night in Branchville.

Miss Mazie Steedly, of Walterboro, and Mrs. Hattie Steedly, of Branchville, are spending some time with Miss Florrie Steedly.

Mr. F. M. Steedly and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Smith.

Miss Carrie Morris and Mr. Wilbur Morris and Miss Susie Hiers, of Olar, are spending some time with Mrs. W. W. Steedly.

Mr. L. C. Smith, of Smoaks, spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Donald.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McPhail and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wyman Hightower and Miss Eloise Stevenson spent Sunday afternoon in Denmark.

Miss Hattie May Morris spent a few hours Sunday with Miss Annie May Richardson.

Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Steedly, of Midway, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Steedly.

Rev. S. W. Goode and wife spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Donald.

Mrs. Sank Proveaux spent Sunday with her aunt, Mrs. Mandie Steedly.

Mr. Odell Sandifer spent Sunday with his brother, Mr. Louis Sandifer.

Mr. W. W. Steedly gave a chicken stew last Wednesday. The chicken was furnished by Mr. L. C. Smith.

Miss Eloise Stevenson and Mrs. B. D. Donald spent Friday afternoon with Miss Hattie May Morris.

Miss Reba Steedly spent Sunday with Mrs. B. D. Donald.

in both houses of congress, referred to appropriate committees and will be debated tomorrow. There is no doubt of their passage.

##### Objects of Entering War.

The objects of the United States in entering the war, the president said, were to vindicate the principles of peace and justice against "selfish and autocratic power." Without selfish ends, for conquest or dominion, seeking no indemnities, or material compensations for the sacrifices it shall make, the United States must enter the war, the president said, to make the world safe for democracy, as only one of the champions of the rights of mankind, and would be satisfied when those rights were as secure as the faith and freedom of nations could make them.

The president's address was sent in full to Germany by a German official news agency for publication in that country. The text also went to England, and a summary of its contents was sent around the world to other nations.

##### President's Recommendations.

To carry on an effective warfare against the German government, which he characterized as a "natural foe to liberty," the president recommended:

Utmost practical cooperation in counsel and action with the governments already at war with Germany.

Extension of liberal financial credits to those governments so that the resources of America may be added so far as possible to theirs.

Organization and mobilization of all the material resources of the country.

Full equipment of the navy, particularly for means of dealing with submarine warfare.

An army of at least 500,000 men, based on the principle of universal liability to service, and the authorization of additional increments of 500,000 each as they are needed or can be handled in training.

Raising necessary money for the United States government, so far as possible without borrowing and on the basis of equitable taxation.

All preparations, the president urged, should be made in such way as not to check the flow of supplies to the nations already in the field against Germany.

##### Great Enthusiasm.

President Wilson's appearance before congress was marked by a scene of the greatest enthusiasm ever shown since he began the practice of delivering his address in person.

From the galleries the only members who appeared not to be joining in the demonstrations were some senators of the group which the president branded as "wiffling men," who, by preventing a vote on the armed neutrality bill, had made the "great government of the United States contemptible." Chief Justice White was among those who cheered loudly and there was no division of spirit between Republicans and Democrats.

Referring only briefly to the long diplomatic correspondence with Germany in his effort to bring her back to the bounds of the laws of humanity and nations, the president launched into his denunciation of the course of the German government.

"The wrongs against which we now arm ourselves," he said, "are no common wrongs; they cut to the very roots of human life."

##### No Quarrel With People.

Disclaiming any quarrel with the German people and anything but a feeling of friendship and sympathy for them, the president declared their government had not acted upon their impulses in entering the war, nor with their previous knowledge or approval.

In scathing terms the president referred to German plots against the United States.

It was evident, the president added, that the spies were here even before the war began. That the German government means to stir up enemies at the very doors of the United States was eloquently proved, he said, by the relation of the plot to embroil Japan and Mexico in war with the United States.

"We are accepting this challenge of hostile purpose," said the president, "because we know that in such a government, following such methods, we can never have a friend."

Yeggmen robbed safes in two stores, one of them including a post-office, at Denver, Anderson county, Sunday night. They secured a total of \$57.

Charlotte Rose, a negro woman, committed suicide in Clarendon county on Tuesday last, cutting her throat. The cause of the deed is unknown.

## IN THE PALMETTO STATE

### SOME OCCURENCES OF VALUABLE KINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

#### State News Boiled Down for Quick Reading.—Paragraphs About Men and Happenings.

E. D. Dukes, a white flagman on the Seaboard Air Line was instantly killed near Camden, when his head struck an overhead bridge.

A cooperative creamery is to be put in operation at Orangeburg, early in April. The manufacture of ice cream will be carried on on a large scale.

The First and Fifth divisions of the South Carolina naval militia, at Charleston, were mobilized Thursday morning on an order from Governor Manning.

The board of Regents of the State Hospital for the Insane, on Thursday unanimously reelected C. F. Williams, M. D., as superintendent of the institution.

Policeman Ormsby Blanding was dismissed from the Sumter police force Monday by the chief of police for an attempted assault on S. L. Krasnoff, a merchant, in the recorder's court.

One hundred and seventy-three students of the University of South Carolina have signed articles to become members of a reserved officers' training corps which is being organized at the university.

Prize winners in the South Carolina Boys' Corn and Pig clubs were tendered a banquet at the Jefferson hotel in Columbia, Friday evening. Several prominent agricultural leaders responded to toasts.

Two big lots of cotton, one of 659 bales and the other of 612 bales, were sold at Sumter Monday. One lot, held since 1914, sold for 19 cents a pound. The price paid for the other lot was not stated.

The body of Percy Dantzler, who was killed in a planing mill accident at Barberton, Ohio, Monday of last week, was buried at Jericho M. E. church, near Cameron, Thursday. The young man was 21 years old.

Eugene Boykin, son of S. D. Boykin, of Anderson is said to be in the hands of the Germans as a prisoner of war, having been taken off the Esmeraldas, when that vessel was recently sunk by the German raider Moewe.

The Red Cross society of South Carolina, of which Mrs. Richard I. Manning is president, met in Columbia Monday afternoon and perfected an organization in view of the present international crisis. Mrs. Dorothy N. Seibles was chosen vice president; Mrs. L. D. Childs, secretary, and Miss Helen Robertson, treasurer.

##### SOUTH AMERICA.

#### Unmeasured Opportunities of a Great Country.

South America is thinly peopled, says the Christian Herald. The Spanish and Portuguese governments, which divided South America between themselves in 1494, made little effort to attract immigration of their own people and denied admission to peoples of other lands. The lands were administered as crown colonies. Large land grants were made to court favorites. There was little opportunity for individual enterprise, even if the continent had been open to enterprising men. It was only after the Latin republics had thrown off the rule of Spain and Portugal that South America threw open her doors to the immigration of the world. But revolutions and epidemics decimated the populations, and the continuance of the great land holdings, which were just being broken up, prevented the close settling of the country, so that even now South America, with an area of 7,276,000 square miles as against North America's 3,559,999, has a population of only about 50,000,000. Yet she has millions of acres of soil as rich as the world knows, and mines whose richness passes belief, and waterways reaching to the heart of the continent, and opportunities almost unmeasured.

##### All Out of Proportion.

Inmate—The Judge didn't treat me square.

Guard—How's that?

Inmate—I'm only 20 and he gave me the same sentence as that old man over there.

Guard—What was it?

Inmate—Life.—Star of Hope, Sing Sing Penitentiary.

## GERMANS ACTIVE IN MEXICO.

### Tremendous Pressure Being Brought to Bear on Gen. Carranza.

Laredo, Texas, April 2.—Travelers from Mexico City just arrived said today that tremendous pressure was being brought to bear on Gen. Carranza by both the so-called "civil group" and the military party, embracing many of the army chiefs. He has not definitely aligned himself with either, although it is known that he desires to curb the activities of the military.

"The civil party" is strongly opposed to any alliance with Germany against the United States and stands firm for a policy of neutrality in the event of the entry of the United States into the war. The military party, according to these stories, is strongly pro-German and advocates the entry of Mexico into hostilities against its northern neighbor.

##### German Plotting.

The reports from Mexico City assert that German influence and money have been active among the military party and that certain members have plans for an active invasion of the border States after the United States has been goaded into making the first hostile move. It is also asserted that these plans contemplate the fomenting of a revolutionary movement in Guatemala and the burning of the oil wells in the Tampico district.

The story has been brought to the border that Gen. Maximilian Klaus, a German-Mexican commander, has begun the recruiting of a brigade of 3,000 Germans to force hostilities with the United States in Chihuahua and Sonora.

##### Obregon Faction Threatening.

It is alleged by the travelers that they were informed before leaving Mexico City that sixteen generals closely allied with Gen. Obregon, minister of war, called on Carranza and demanded that he withdraw his support from the civil faction, stating that if he did not do so they would cease to support his administration.

According to the sources mentioned previously, Germany is alleged to have promised the Mexican military chiefs Texas, Arizona and New Mexico in the event the proposed alliance should be successful and also British Honduras.

##### DEMOCRATS IN CONTROL.

#### With Aid of Four Independents Democrats Carry Day in Lower House.

Washington, April 2.—The Democrats, with the aid of the five Independents, organized the house when the new congress assembled today, reelecting Speaker Champ Clark, of Missouri, and sweeping into office with him all the other Democratic caucus nominees.

Mr. Clark received 217 votes against 205 for Representative Mann, Republican, who lost the support of five of his party colleagues.

All the Democrats present voted for Mr. Clark, and were joined by Representatives Schall, Progressive, Minnesota; Martin, Progressive-Protectionist, Louisiana; London, Socialist, New York, and Randal, Prohibitionist, California. The five Republicans who did not support Mr. Mann were Gardner, Massachusetts, who voted for Representative Lenroot, of Wisconsin; Gray, of New Jersey, and Dallinger, Massachusetts, who voted for Representative Gillette, of Massachusetts, and Haskell, New York, and James, Michigan, who voted "present." Representative Fuller, Independent, Massachusetts, voted for Representative Lenroot.

##### Republicans Surprised.

To the surprise of the Republicans, Representative Schall placed Mr. Clark in nomination. For a time it was thought that he had done so by inadvertence, but later it developed that he acted through prearrangement with Democratic leaders. He asked permission to address the house after the first roll-call, and then declaring the international situation demanded united support of President Wilson, aroused tremendous cheering by announcing that, although with his sightless eyes he could be of no use on the battlefield, he could at least support the president by casting a vote for Champ Clark.

Selection of the minor officers of the house was delayed by the Republicans, who, hoping to obtain one or two places, demanded separate roll-calls on each office. Democrats were elected to all of the contested offices, however, and the house then proceeded to adopt its rules and organize committees.

Read the Herald, \$1.50 per year.